

Amendments to the Specification:

Kindly amend the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 4 as follows:

By "interferon- α " is meant a protein containing an amino acid sequence that is substantially identical to the interferon- α 2 mature polypeptide (amino acids 24-188 of Accession No:P01563; SEQ ID NO:1), or a biologically active fragment thereof. Thus, interferon- α includes the interferon- α 2 precursor polypeptide (Accession No:P01563; SEQ ID NO:1) and fragments that retain the biological activity of mature interferon- α (e.g., anti-proliferative activity). Also included in this definition are the variant forms of interferon- α 2 including, for example, interferon- α 2b (R46K mutation of SEQ ID NO:1) and interferon- α 2c (R57H mutation of SEQ ID NO:1). Interferon- α 2b is an O-linked glycoprotein. Interferon- α 14c is a N-linked glycoprotein that is glycosylated at Asn-72. Natural interferon is commercially available under the name of ~~Wellferon~~ WELLFERON (Glaxo-SmithKline), ~~Alferon~~ ALFERON (Interferon), ~~Sumiferon~~ SUMIFERON (Sumitomo) and ~~Multiferon~~ MULTIFERON (Viragen). Non-glycosylated interferon- α is also commercially available including, for example, recombinant interferon- α 2a, under the name ~~Referon®-A~~ ROFERON-A (Roche), recombinant interferon- α 2b, under the name ~~Intron®-A~~ INTRON-A (Schering Plough), and recombinant interferon- α 2c, under the name of ~~Berefer-alpha-2~~ BEROFOR ALPHA 2 (Boehringer Ingelheim). Recombinant consensus interferon-con 1 is available under the name of ~~Infergen~~ INFERGEN (Amgen). Of course, prior to use in the composition and methods of this invention, any non-glycosylated interferon must be glycosylated with an oligosaccharide having a terminal galactose residue.